wherein said exposure map creating means includes judging means for judging whether or not each shot straddles a plurality of meshes by using a plurality of memories and adding circuits;

said judging means judges whether the shot in question straddles said plurality of meshes based on positional relations between coordinates of two diagonally positioned edge points of each shot on the one hand and mesh boundaries on the other hand, and

said exposure map creating means divides each shot straddling said plurality of meshes by boundaries of said meshes so that either area values or area densities of divided slots included in each mesh are stored in each plurality of memories respectively and are added to the mesh in question by calculating in said adding circuits, respectively.

REMARKS

Claims 1-10 are pending. By this Amendment, claim 1 is amended.

The Office Action rejects claims 1-3 under 35 U.S.C. § 102 over JP 7-201720 (Tamura), rejects claims 4-10 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 over Tamura in view of Saitou (USP 4,692,579) and rejects claims 8-9 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 over Tamura and Saitou in view of Komaru (USP 3,921,135). These rejections are respectfully traversed.

It is respectfully submitted that the cited references do not disclose or suggest that the exposure map creating means divides each shot straddling the plurality of meshes by boundaries of the meshes so that either area values or area densities of divided shots including in each mesh are stored in each plurality of memories respectively and are added to the mesh in question by calculating inside adding circuits, respectively, as recited in claim 1. In particular, Tamura does not show divided shots included in each mesh being stored in a plurality of memories, respectively. Saitou does not disclose or suggest area values of divided shots included in each mesh are stored in a plurality of memories by an exposure map creating means. Further, Komaru does not disclose or suggest each device divided shot data being stored in each memory respectively, and each area value and each mesh is calculated in each circuit, respectively.